

# The History of Clinton County Compiled From Data Gathered In 1880

## First Settlers of Town of Peru Followed Indian Trails Into Wilderness—Many Built Log Cabins on Little Ausable River—Pioneers Came as Early as 1790—Number Came From Dutchess County—Early Inhabitants Listed by Districts

### CHAPTER FORTY-SIX

#### Cochran Built Home on Bluff—Opened Grist Mill

The bluff on which Cochran built his house was bounded on the west by a stream with high banks, that came from the south, down which to this time came the road leading from the Union to the settlement on the river. As soon as time and means would allow, Cochran built a grist-mill on the river opposite his dwelling. He also built a log house across the river, very near the store subsequently occupied by Robert M. Day. In this log house lived Thomas Morse, the miller, who for many years was the faithful miller of the place. Two houses and a grist mill made quite a settlement in those days, and the place soon became known throughout the country as Cochran's Mill. It was in reality the greatest public benefaction the town had ever experienced. Previous to this the settlers were compelled to go to Plattsburgh for milling purposes.

#### First Pioneers Followed Indian Trails to Halleck Hill

The first pioneers following the Indian trail from the Indian pass found themselves upon the brow of Halleck Hill. Among them was Edward Halleck. He settled just under the brow of the hill, and gave his name to it. From his house, and also from the Indian lodge to the north of it, could be seen the vast hunting-grounds of the Indian, where, under the high branches of the forest of pine, oak, elm, beech and maple, reposed the moose, deer, bear, and catamount, and through the best part of which follow the Little Ausable at that time a river of quiet beauty or of noisy merriment, as its course happened to lie.

#### John Stanton and Wife Came From Dutchess County About 1790

The road leading North from the Union, and which was called the Rogers road, crossed as it does now, the Little Ausable about half a mile west of Peru village. On this road about one fourth of a mile north of the river lived John Stanton, one of the first settlers of Peru. He came with his wife from Dutchess county, about 1790. A goodly-favored maid of all work accompanied them, and they had come up with others to establish a home in the wilderness, and help develop the resources of the country.

#### Marital Troubles Sent Stantons Back to Dutchess County

All went well until, in the course of nature a serious difficulty arose between Stanton and his amiable spouse, which caused the latter to demand that Stanton return her to her father's house in Dutchess county. It was the winter season so placing his wife on a hand sled, of his own handwork, Stanton started on his journey. Proceeding by the most favorable route to the lake, he traveled up to Skenesborough (now Whitehall), thence to Fort Edward, and by way of the Hudson River to Dutchess county. After the lapse of five weeks, he returned alone to his home, and to the maid-servant, the cause of the contention, who also had become the mother of a child. Freed by his hand-sled divorce, Stanton married the servant and assumed the responsibilities of a father to one of the first children born among the first settlers in the ancient boundaries of Peru.

#### Witches in Stanton's Swamp, Legend of Early Day Settlers

The road from the river to the Stanton place was through a dense swamp of treacherous ground, where in the legendary age, witches astride of broomsticks, with jack-

o-lanterns, held high revelry on dark nights, during certain seasons of the year. Chemical science has since demonstrated that combustible gases, generated in decaying animal and vegetable matter, burns as it escapes into the common air, and gives a ghostly appearance in the dark.

#### Benjamin Smith Settled at West Peru—Has Square Mile of Farmland

Benjamin Smith settled at West Peru at an early day. He owned a mile square of land in that locality, and was a man of influence and prominence. During the war of 1812 he engaged largely in furnishing supplies to troops, but owing to military seizures and other contingencies of the war, he suffered heavy pecuniary loss, became broken in health and spirits, and finally died. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen and Ruth Keese, in 1803, and had children, Mary, Stephen B., Ruth, Abigail, Sarah H., Samuel, Thomas, Eliza, Hannah, and Benjamin F., Stephen B. is an old and esteemed resident of Peru at this time.

#### Simon Eells First Settler at Bartonville, Now Known as Lapham's Mills

The first settler at what was formerly called Bartonville, on the Little Ausable River, and now known as Lapham's Mills, was Simon Eells. The tract was included in the Bell Patent, and it is reported that on one occasion the proprietor, William Bell, while looking over his land discovered that some one had been cutting timber on various parts of his 4000-acre lot, whereupon he began to make inquiries among the settlers of Peru with the view of discovering the offenders and bringing them to justice. He called upon several persons who lived near the outskirts of his big forest tract, but the only information that he could elicit from the honest pioneers was that "Uncle Sim Eells was the only man who had trespassed upon the forbidden ground." At last Bell, worried by his unsuccessful search after the pilferers lost all patience, and recognizing Eells to be the only working man in the locality by his successful raid upon his timber, presented him with 100 acre lot as a reward for his industry.

#### "Uncle Sim" Formed Industrious Habits That Were Noticeable

Uncle Sim's lot, on which he soon erected a log hut, was about a mile south east of the railroad bridge, and his industrious habits formed such a striking feature of his character that the old inhabitants still remember how he used to amuse himself by moving his garden-fence one day and back the next, when he could find nothing else to do.

#### Simon Eells Built First Saw-Mill, Bartonville, About 1810

He built the first saw-mill at this point about the year 1810, the dam of which was very near where the railroad bridge now is. Subsequently another saw-mill was built about 100 rods above the first, and afterwards several other sawmills were built below, which did their full share in cutting up the magnificent growth of pine that formerly covered that part of the town. There is hardly a vestige of these first mills left now, except a few "mudsills" that formed the foundation of the dams or mill buildings.

#### Number of Earliest Settlers of Town Are Listed

Mention can only be made of a few of the other early settlers of the town. Abijah Ketchum, father of Benjamin, lived early near the lake.

Isaac Finch lived in the same locality. Robert Platt owned 700 acres on the lake-shore, and was influential in building the Methodist church in that locality. Simeon Frisbee lived near Platt. Also James Finch, Daniel Chapman, Ebenezer, Isaac and William Baker, and Uriah Palmer.

At the Union lived Rufus Green, where George Beadstone now does. John, Lott and Asa Ellmore. A. Hinchley, George Berdsley, and Russell Ransom lived along the "lake road."

Jabez Allen, Isaac Allen, and Peter Allen settled very early in the Allen neighborhood, where their descendants still reside.

Moses Dickson lived near the mouth of the Great Ausable River at an early day.

John Howe lived and died on Thorp's Patent, in the Peaseville locality.

Uriah Waterman and the four Arthur Brothers settled about halfway between Peru village and Keeseville. A tavern was kept there for a time by A. Allen. Joel Buck had an inn nearby.

Solomon Moon lived early near Goshen.

Joshua Wells lived early at Birmingham, in the town of Ausable.

Robert Day lived on the fordway between Keeseville and the Forks. Jeremiah and Ellhu Hayes lived near by.

Benjamin Earls lived a little south of Peru village, and taught school at an early day in the Union.

John Cochran, Jr., John Dobbs, Israel Reynolds and William Pollard lived early about three miles northeast from Peru Village.

Moses Soper was a very early settler about a mile south of Peru Village. He then moved to Salmon River, where he erected a mill. He subsequently died there.

Isaac Buck lived near where Moses Soper first settled.

Robert and William Anson settled early in what is now the town of Ausable.

The Southwick family lived very early on Halleck Hill, and had a tannery there.

Among other early settlers were John Howe, Isaac Finch, Abijah Ketchum, Ezekiel Lockwood, Samuel Jackson, Cyrus Newcomb, George Hayworth, Benjamin Sherman, and Elias and Robert Cochran.

#### Inhabitants of Original Town of Peru Are Listed by Districts

The following list of inhabitants of the original town of Peru is taken from the records of that town. It was made on May 2, 1796, and the numbers after each name indicate the number of days that each man had to perform labor on the public highways. These figures will also show the relative amount of property possessed by each man, as the number of days' work which he had to perform was measured by the property that he owned. A reference to the description of the districts (as given later) will also show the approximate location of each of these persons.

#### DIST. ONE

District No. 1: Levi Arnold, overseer; 7; John Finch, 3; Alexander Campbell, 15; Abijah Ketchum, 4; Nathan Bowley, 4; Benj. Weldon, 9; Isaac Finch, 8; Simeon Frisbee, 4; Justine Finch, 2; James Finch, 2.

#### DIST. TWO

District No. 2: Daniel Chapman, overseer; 5; Samuel Jackson, 6; Ebenezer Baker, 3; Isaac Baker, 3; William Baker, 2; Uriah Palmer, 8; Sylvanus Palmer, 4; William Palmer, 2; Doct Stone, 3; Chandler Phillips, 2.

#### DIST. THREE

District No. 3: Rufus Green, overseer; 4; Lot Ellmore, 9; John Ellmore, 9; Ezekiel Montgomery, 3; Theophilus Jackson, 3; Jabez Allen, 9; Isaac Allen, 6; Peter Allen, 2; Moses Dickson, 8; John Howe, 7; Uriah Waterman, 3; Elisha Thompson, 2; Nicholas Palmer, 4; William Brangham, 2; Zachaus Weston, 3; Solomon Moon, 4; Cyrus Soper, 2; Edward Palmer, 3.

#### DIST. FOUR

District No. 4: Isaac Wright, overseer; 3; Joshua Wells, 8; Daniel Fay, 2; Thomas Ellmore, 2; Basilia Handy, 2; Edward Palmer, Jr., 2; Ezekiel Palmer, 2; Reuben French, 4; Aaron Leonard, 6; Zebulon War-

ner, 3; Asa Adgate, 12; Asher Adgate, 8; Abraham Gillet, 3; John Douglas, 8; John Hawley, 2; Abel Baker, 2; William Handy, 2; Abel Handy, 2; David Yal, 2; Samuel Hadlock, 2; David Wright, 2; William Buckle, 2; Samuel Hawley, 2; Bartlett Bets, 2.

#### DIST. FIVE

District No. 5: Elisha Jinker, overseer; 4; Emanuel Beardsley, 8; Beverly Beardsley, 8; James Watson, 3; James Bean, 4; Andrew Debar, 3; Benj. George, 2; Robert Day, 4; David George, 3.

#### DIST. SIX

District No. 6: George Everett, overseer; 5; Edward Everett, 5; Reuben Whitman, 3; Abednego Ricketson, 6; Joshua Arthur, 4; Thomas Arthur, 4; John Morehouse, 7; William Morehouse, 7; Joseph Swanway, 3; Alexander Blair, 2; Francis Swanway, 2; John Swanway, 2.

#### DIST. SEVEN

District No. 7: Henry Green, overseer; 8; James McOver, 2; Elisha Green, 1; Gilbert Reynolds, 1; West Samuel, 4; George Martin, 3; Peter White, 2; Samuel Jackson, 3; Samuel Brown, 2; John Stanton, 4.

#### DIST. EIGHT

District No. 8: William Keese, overseer; 16; John Phillips, 2; John Howard, 3; Elisha Thompson, 2; Aaron Benedict, 3; Cyrus Benedict, 3; John Sheldon, 5; Benj. Earls, 3; Aaron Benedict, Jr., 3; William Benedict, 2; Thaddeus Sheldon 2.

#### DIST. NINE

District No. 9: John Cochran Jr., overseer; 5; John Huff, 13; John Dobb, 2; Israel Reynolds, 3; William Pollard.

#### DIST. TEN

District No. 10: Amos Day, overseer; 12; John Cochran, 16; Jonathan Birt, 2; Asa Ellmore, 4; John Brotherton, 4.

#### DIST. ELEVEN

District No. 11: Robert Cochran, overseer; 8; Silas Cochran, 4; David Leonard, 2.

#### DIST. TWELVE

District No. 12: Augustine Arthur, overseer; 8; Reuben Arthur, 4; Moses Soper, 8; John Betts, 2; Israel Buch, 3; Sherman Hunt, 2.

#### DIST. THIRTEEN

District No. 13: Almon Phillips, overseer; 5; Nicholas Barker, 5; Robert Anson, 5; Solomon Brown, 2; Joseph Jekax, 3.

#### DIST. FOURTEEN

District No. 14: Gilbert Thew, overseer; 5; Robert Whitcomb, 3; David Cochran, 3; Garret Thew, 5; Stephen Stark, 2.

#### DIST. FIFTEEN

District No. 15: Stephen Keese, overseer; 8; David Osborn, 4; John Osborn, 3; Richard Keese, 17; John Keese, 15; John Keese, Jr., 2; John Skinner, 2; Amasa Draw, 2; John Taylor, 2; David Chandler, 2.

#### DIST. SIXTEEN

District No. 16: Ebenezer Olmstead, overseer; 8; John Dantz, 4; Rodman Green, 2; Ellhu Allen, 4; Abner Allen, 4; Zebulon Allen, 2; Moses Gleson, 2; Caleb Simmons, 3; Peter Hallock, 5; Benjamin Briggs, 2; Eleazer Nichols, 4.

#### DIST. SEVENTEEN

District No. 17: Simeon Eells, overseer; 4; Benjamin Green, 3; Mr. Francis, 2; John Green, 4; Noah Lee, 4; Abijah Hawks, 3; Isaac Cole, 2.

Mrs. Rose received the gift of a jar of preserved cherries from a nephew who was engaged in the fruit-farming industry in the Colonies.

To make sure that the fruit would keep he had preserved them in fine old brandy.

Some time later the young man received a letter of thanks from his relative. It ran — "Thanks for the splendid gift of cherries. They were delicious, but even more must I thank you for the splendid spirit in which they were sent."

"And when is your eldest daughter thinking of marrying?" asked one man of his neighbor. "Oh, constantly," was the reply.

## LEGION PROMOTES WHITEFACE MONUMENT

SARANAC LAKE, N. Y., July 15 (AP)—Despite Governor Lehman's vigorous veto of the Whiteface mountain monument bill, American legion posts of the Adirondacks and Essex county, in meeting at Elizabethtown, passed a resolution favoring such a monument. The legionnaires believe that with the building of the new road up the peak by the Whiteface memorial commission, such a monument at the top of the mountain would be a fitting tribute to American soldiers who died in the great war.

The county legionnaires expressed themselves as being in full sympathy with the efforts to protect and preserve the natural beauty of the Adirondacks but stated that they felt that the beacon atop Whiteface would add to, rather than detract from, the beauty of the peak.

They cited the approval given to the project by state legion conventions at Troy in 1927 and at Saratoga Springs in 1930.

There has been widespread opposition to such a monument throughout the Adirondacks by members of leagues, councils and groups, organized to preserve the natural wildness and beauty of the mountains as an advertisement to attract summer visitors.

## RAY BROOK DOOM AS TROUT DOMICILE

SARANAC LAKE, N. Y., July 15 (AP)—Ray Brook, called by the late President Taft, "the finest stream in America," may be doomed as a trout anglers' paradise. For the first time in history, bass have been found in the upper reaches of the stream where the best catches of brown trout are ordinarily made. Recently two Saranac Lake fishermen returned from the brook with several legal bass which they claimed to have taken from the waters on regular trout lures. It is feared that if the bass are numerous, they will quickly kill off the trout.

An investigation will be made by local fishermen to determine whether the bass could have fought their way up from the Saranac River, into which Ray Brook flows, or if the larger game fish were put into the upper stretches of the stream, as deliberate sabotage by cranks opposed to trout fishing there.

The stream borders Ray Brook sanatorium, New York State hospital for the control and cure of tuberculosis.

## NEW YORK SUPREME COURT CLINTON COUNTY

John C. McKinney, Plaintiff.

—against— Lewis C. Trombley, Fred A. Miller, William Dominia, Leon A. Trombley, Merchants National Bank in Plattsburgh, N. Y., Harry McCottery, Defendants.

Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale granted in the above entitled action and filed and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Clinton, N. Y., on the 21st day of July, 1934, the undersigned Referee, in and by said judgment appointed for that purpose, will sell at public auction at the front door of the County Court House in the City of Plattsburgh, Clinton County, N. Y., on the 22nd day of August, 1934, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon (Daylight Saving Time), the lands and premises in and by said judgment directed to be sold and therein described as follows, viz:

ALL that tract or parcel of land situated in the Town of Chazy, County of Clinton, State of New York, bounded and described as follows, viz: On the north by lands of George Hubbell and John Savage; on the east by lands of George Hubbell and by Lake Champlain; on the south by lands of George Gilbert; on the west by the highway running from Point-aux-Roches to East Chazy, containing or supposed to contain 11 1/2 acres of land, be the same more or less being the same premises described in a deed executed by said Lewis C. Trombley to said Elsie C. Trombley dated March 21, 1910 and recorded in Clinton County Clerk's Office in Vol. 113 of Deeds at page 683, except about 19 acres thereof conveyed by said Elsie C. Trombley and Lewis C. Trombley to George L. Hubbell, by deed dated October 4, 1910, recorded in Vol. 114 of Deeds at page 570 in Clinton County Clerk's Office, and by deed dated December 6, 1911, recorded in Vol. 115 of Deeds, page 859, which lands and premises are a part of the lands devised to Lewis C. Trombley by his grandfather, Lewis Wood, by his will probated and recorded in Clinton County Surrogate's Office.

Said premises being subject to a right-of-way described in a deed by Lewis C. Trombley to Chazy Telephone Company, dated October 13, 1910, and recorded in Vol. 160 of Deeds, page 15, in Clinton County Clerk's Office, together with all rights contained in said deed.

Dated: July 5, 1934.

CHARLES H. SIGNOR, Referee.

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Harvey W. Boisseau, late of Keeseville, N. Y. All claims against said estate must be filed with the undersigned at Keeseville National Bank, Keeseville, N. Y., on or before the 18th day of August, 1934.

Dated Feb. 7, 1934.

Roy D. Boisseau, Willard H. Baber, Executors P. O. Address, Keeseville, N. Y.

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of HENRY SCHEIER, late of Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York. All claims against said estate must be filed with the undersigned at the office of Henry Scheier & Son, 50-52 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York, on or before the 1st day of September, 1934.

Dated February 26th, 1934.

REBECCA SCHEIER, JOEL H. SCHEIER, Executors P. O. Address, 50-52 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, N. Y.

## FEINBERG & JERRY

Attorneys for Executors, Office and P. O. Address, 85 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York. (P27-6mos.)

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of MARY ELIZABETH TURNER, late of the Town of Schuyler Falls, Clinton County, New York. All claims against said estate must be filed with the undersigned at the Law Office of Charles H. Signor, at 14 Brinkerhoff Street, Plattsburgh, New York, on or before the 15th day of October, 1934.

Dated April 12th, 1934.

Ernest A. Turner, Executor P. O. Address, Plattsburgh, New York.

## NEW YORK SUPREME COURT

John Edward Thompson, Plaintiff, against William Thompson, son of William Thompson, deceased, Dora B. Thompson, Lena C. Thompson, Mabel E. Stone, Maud W. Stone, Mamie S. Reed, Lottie Thompson, Dewey Stone, Elizabeth M. Stone, Violet S. Thayer, William Thompson, son of Edmund Thompson, deceased, Aline Thompson, Mamie Lapine, Mike Ashline, Cecile Ashline, Frank Ashline, Lucy A. Yarter, Joseph Ashline, May Ashline, Edward Ashline, Ella Ashline, Josie Gibson, Esther C. Lowe, William Bodah, Emma Bodah, Rose Thompson, Mabel Eddy, Adrien Trombley, the People of the State of New York, and William Thompson, son of Edward Thompson, if living, Defendants.

To the Above Named Defendants: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the plaintiff's attorneys within twenty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Dated: May 29th, 1934.

Booth & Booth, Plaintiff's Attorneys, Office & P. O. Address, 30 Clinton Street, Plattsburgh, N. Y.

To William Thompson, son of Edward Thompson, deceased, Sally T. Wells, Mamie Gladus, Lottie

Booth & Booth, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Office and P. O. Address, 30 Clinton Street, Plattsburgh, N. Y.

Edward Thompson, deceased, Sally T. Wells, Mamie Gladus, Lottie

Booth & Booth, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Office and P. O. Address, 30 Clinton Street, Plattsburgh, N. Y.

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Booth & Booth, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Office and P. O. Address, 30 Clinton Street, Plattsburgh, N. Y.

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ALL that lot of land situated in the southeast corner of Delord Street and being a part of Lot No. 64 of the Subdivision of the Sully Farm and bounded on the north by the south line of Delord Street; on the east by Lot 64; on the south by the Montey Lot No. 66, and on the west by lands formerly of Joseph Bird, being 69 feet 7 inches on Delord Street and 69 feet 5 inches deep, and the same premises conveyed by Harriet E. Connors and Andrew Connors to Annie J. Ross, by deed dated January 14, 1889, recorded in Vol. 85 of Deeds, page 113, in Clinton County Clerk's Office.

Dated: June 9th, 1934.

Booth & Booth, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 30 Clinton Street, Plattsburgh, N. Y. (J11-18-25-Juz-9-16)

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Monthly payments are 1% of the amount borrowed, with the exception of the first twelve payments when an additional payment of 50 cents for each \$1000. borrowed is required. For example, on a loan of \$1000, the monthly payment will be \$10; for \$2000, it will be \$20; for \$2500, it will be \$25, etc. The following schedule shows in detail at the end of each year the plan whereby a loan of \$1000 is repaid over a period of 11 years and 7 months.

Year	Payment for cost	Interest	Credit on Mortgage	Balance due
1	125.	\$ 64.32	\$ 61.68	\$293.23
2	120.	64.52	65.48	\$274.84
3	120.	60.48	69.52	\$268.52
4	120.	46.19	73.81	\$259.51
5	120.	41.64	78.36	\$51.15
6	120.	36.82	83.18	\$67.97
7	120.	31.68	88.32	\$76.29
8	120.	26.24	92.76	\$85.29
9	120.	20.45	99.55	\$95.34
10	120.	14.31	105.69	\$106.65
11	120.	7.79	112.21	\$6.44
11 yr. 7 mo.	69.82	1.38	68.44	None

\$1395.82 \$395.82 \$1000